



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Mr. Timothy Kronquist
Holtzman Vogel Josefiak Torchinsky PLLC
45 North Hill Drive, Suite 100
Warrenton, VA 20186

JUL 25 2018

RE: MUR 7392
Ryan for Congress, Inc.
and Paul Mair, as treasurer

Dear Mr. Kronquist:

On May 31, 2018, the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") notified your clients of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"). On July 24, 2018, based upon the information contained in the complaint and information provided by respondents, the Commission decided to dismiss allegations that Ryan for Congress, Inc. and Paul Mair in his official capacity as treasurer, violated provisions of the Act. The Commission then closed its file in this matter. A copy of the General Counsel's Report, which more fully explains the basis for the Commission's decision, is enclosed.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files, 68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003) and Statement of Policy Regarding Placing First General Counsel's Reports on the Public Record, 74 Fed. Reg. 66132 (Dec. 14, 2009). If you have any questions, please contact Kristina Portner, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1518.

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Jordan", written over a white background.

BY: Jeff S. Jordan
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

**ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM
DISMISSAL REPORT**

MUR: 7392

**Respondents: Ryan for Congress, Inc.
and Paul Mair, as Treasurer
("the Committee")**

Complaint Receipt Date: May 23, 2018

Response Date: June 13, 2018

EPS Rating:

**Alleged Statutory
Regulatory Violations:**

**52 U.S.C. §§ 30102(c),(i), 30116(a), 30122
11 C.F.R. §§ 104.7(b), 104.14(d), 110.1(b),
110.4(b)**

Complainant alleges that he paid \$750 to a host in order to sponsor a business luncheon attended by Speaker of the House of Representatives Paul Ryan. The Complainant claims that he has never donated to the Committee, but that the \$750 he paid appears as a 2016 contribution on reports filed by Ryan for Congress, Inc. and Team Ryan.¹ Respondents admit that the check was inadvertently collected by Team Ryan, deposited into Team Ryan's bank account, and subsequently distributed to the Committee in accordance with the Team Ryan Joint Fundraising Agreement. Respondents note that after they were made aware of the issue, the Committee refunded the \$750 to the Complainant and amended its reports.

Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the

¹ Team Ryan is a joint fundraising committee, which, at the time of the transaction, was comprised of Ryan for Congress, Inc., Prosperity Action, Inc., and the National Republican Congressional Committee. Resp. at 1 (June 13, 2018).

electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating, the small amount at issue, and the remedial actions by the Committee, we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint consistent with the Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use of agency resources. *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985). We also recommend that the Commission close the file as to all Respondents and send the appropriate letters.

Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

Kathleen M. Guith
Associate General Counsel

June 29, 2018
Date

BY: Stephen Gura
Stephen Gura
Deputy Associate General Counsel

Jeff S. Jordan
Jeff S. Jordan
Assistant General Counsel

Kristina Portner
Kristina M. Portner
Attorney